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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Attorney Docket No. 017309/0173

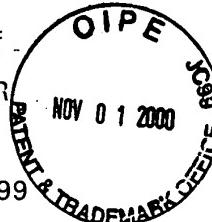
In re patent application of

Josef Otter-RETtenmaier

Serial No. 09/380,731

Filed: September 13, 1999

For: ANCILLARY FILTERING AGENT



Group Art Unit: 1723

Examiner: S. Kim

AMENDMENT AND REPLY UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.111

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

In reply to the Office Action mailed August 1, 2000 (Paper No. 8) please amend the above-identified application as follows:

IN THE SPECIFICATION

A substitute specification and a two-stage mark-up/redline are enclosed. Entry of the substitute specification, which contains no new matter, is respectfully requested.

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IN THE CLAIMS

1. (Once amended) Filter aid which comprises finely divided wood particles which have been subjected to a chemical liquid treatment that removes sensorially active substances therefrom, [characterized in that] wherein the particles [have been] ~~are~~ subjected to a treatment with a dilute alkali solution at a temperature below 100° C and at atmospheric pressure, [which removes] to a degree sufficient to remove the sensorially active substances from the wood particles and leave the wood particles as wood particles.

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